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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, March 22, 2010, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. Clarke).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

March 20, 2010. I hereby appoint the Honorable YVETTE D. CLARKE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Let us approach the Lord with praise and thanksgiving. Strong is His love for us. Left to ourselves, we are easily overwhelmed. We cannot be attentive to His Word or accomplish His holy will

So shield us with Your Holy Spirit, Lord, and make this Congress bold and strong. As Your instrument of mercy and compassion, drive away all that is evil and reveal the path that will strengthen Your people in hope and salvation, and give You the glory both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of Ohio led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Today we are close to achieving a long-sought goal ensuring that all Americans have access to meaningful, affordable health coverage. Passing health care reform benefits all of us: families, seniors, businesses, taxpayers, and our Nation.

This plan includes many vital prescriptions that strengthen health care for all Americans, provisions that I have fought hard for: prohibiting insurance companies from excluding preexisting condition coverage for children and adults. Six months after reform is passed, all children will be protected from these denials, strengthening primary care for seniors with a new focus on those with chronic diseases. Seniors will no longer have to pay copayments for preventative care and will have greater access to primary care doctors and nurses. And reform ensures that all insurance policies use plain, easy-to-understand language so that consumers know what they're buying and can honestly compare their choices.

The status quo is unacceptable and unsustainable. I urge a "yes" vote on health care reform.

GOVERNMENT FAIRY TALE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

